

THE

**ZERO**

#2  
APRIL

25¢

**VA  
NECROS  
MEAT  
D. THE B  
FINNISH H.C.**



000560-00365

**THE ALL OUT ATTACK!**  
Don't bother trying to defend yourself—  
Run it up. Lost Blair takes care.



THE  
MIDWEST'S  
FREMOST  
HARDCORE  
RADIO SHOW  
FRIDAY NITES  
7-8

**WCBN**  
**88.3 FM**  
ANN ARBOR

THE

# ZERO

P.O. BOX 685  
KALAMAZOO, MICH.  
49005

The ZERO is still in  
its infancy—we need  
your input, so write!

COMING UP in the next  
issue of the ZERO:

MISFITS! Lots of ex-  
clusive fun pix!  
MINOR THREAT....  
NEW ZEALAND HARDCORE  
Stay Tuned....

## THE FINNISH HARDCORE SCENE

The biggest and best hardcore scene in Europe today is found in Finland. Many find this surprising, but Finland's special geographic and social situation well explains it. The Finnish are constantly wary of their eastern neighbor, the U.S.S.R. While a free democratic country, many freedoms in Finland are limited. For example, the Finnish press is unofficially forbidden to publish any criticism of the U.S.S.R. While not a satellite of the U.S.S.R., Finland does have several solidarity military treaties with her, and is dependant on an active trade with the U.S.S.R. for her economic well-being. Resistance or complaints against the Soviet system could conceivably jeopardize this balance. Much of the frustration of the Finnish youth comes from this political climate, but the extreme social conservatism of Finland has also driven many kids to reject the system. The cold, dark winters and history of domination by Sweden and Russia have left the Finns shy, heavy drinking, xenophobic conservatives. And there are no places for kids to go at night. Most bars and discos have set the ages of entrance at 20 for girls and 24 for boys. Some clubs sometimes require a highschool diploma(1) for entrance. So most Helsinki youths hang out in front of the trainstation or at Carroll's, the city's fast-food joint. There, they often have run-ins with the many police who strictly enforce the "LAW." All

of this adds up to a strong tension among youth, and an excellent hardcore scene. Borrowing from the music they have heard from America and England, the Finnish Punks have taken off into their own direction of some of the best Hardcore done today.



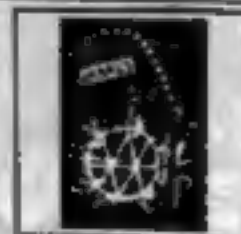
"RUSSIA BOMBS FINLAND" Sampler  
PROPAGANDA Records, Box 393  
00101 Helsinki 10, Finland

This is THE definitive collection of Finnish Hardcore...35 trax by 10 different bands all on red wax that looks good enough to take a bite out of. RIISTETTYT, BASTARDS, APPENDIX, and TERVEET KÄDET are the standouts...

TERVEET KÄDET's "Ma Haluan Paljon Rahaa" (I want lots of Money) alone makes the purchase of this album worthwhile...sounds like a cross between Discharge and Jody Foster's Army. In any case, the whole album is a standout. 9¢ to PROPAGANDA'll get it for you.

RATTUS "MC RÄJÄHTÄÄ" Poko Records,  
Box 483, 33101 Tampere 10, Finland

The Pushead graphic on the cover well explains the album's title, which means "Exploding Toilet" The record is relentless and driving all the way through— Another great disc! A fine recording, mix, and pressing has rendered this record extremely clear, clean, and loud. The words (In Finnish) are all printed on the back cover, so sing along with the boys!



VARAUS "1 L.P." INFO: Jone Vaarala  
MJP 16.A. 04350 MAHKELA, Finland

This LP has only one side pressed, hence the title. I don't know much about the band itself, but their influences seem to be quite varied, and the music is great. "NAGASAKI 84" sounds a little like Discharge, while

"VILKONPOPFU" sounds like M.D.C. A solid record all the way through.

**SUPPORT FINNISH HARDCORE!**

# MEATMEN



TESTO, PLASTIC PANTS IN HAND, PREPARES TO SING



WEARING HIS "BLOW ME JAN" REGGAE WIG, TESTO LIGHTS UP GIANT SPLIFF...

NECROS/FAITH/MEATMEN/HATE FROM IGNORANCE  
 @ The 9:30 Club, D.C., March 6



THE BIG event in D.C. this winter had to be the TOUCH & GO benefit. First, a band called HATE FROM IGNORANCE played. They tried hard but didn't have the energy that a lot of other young D.C. bands display... The third band was FAITH who were tight, fast, & good. A couple of times the crowd almost went out of control as the local boys whipped through their set. Unfortunately the 9:30 Club kept two big bouncers up front to keep the kids from having too much fun. The NECROS played last, and as usual, well. But, of course, the highlight of this Sunday matinee was the return of the MEATMEN who played second. I can't think of a band I've enjoyed seeing more than the MEATMEN (except maybe VIOLENT APATHY.) They started with a cover of "Dance to the Music" and ripped through most of the songs off their EPs. The crowd went wild and the bouncers couldn't keep the kids from diving. It was a thoroughly satisfying performance.





DICK  
+ THE  
BALLS



THE WHOPPER BEAT THE BIG MAC

I used to like McDonalds  
I thought it was hardcore  
I used to hang out with Ronald  
But not any more  
One day I went to Burger King  
And I saw the light  
The best thing of all  
Is that they're open all night  
The Whopper beat the Big Mac

The Whopper beat the  
 Their burgers are much better  
 Their fries are better too  
 I really like to hang out there  
 McDonalds FUCK YOU  
 I'm happy there at Burger King  
 I go there every day  
 And when you see me come in  
 You'd better get out of my way

The Whopper beat the Big Mac (x)



IT'S NOT A WEDDING IT'S A FUNERAL  
Throw away your life  
Throw away your dreams  
Make that cow your wife  
Marriage isn't all it seems  
... it's a funera



# W. HOPPER

After their tragic breakup last fall, Kalamazoo's DICK & THE BALLS have rebounded with new addition Jenny Ball on drums. The winter saw Dick to D.C., Ricky to Europe, and John to New Zealand. The three, overjoyed to dine once again at Kazco's Mich. Ave. Burger King, decided to

# KING



# VIOLENT

The ZERO was fortunate enough to have a chat with Kenny, VA's singer, about this & that

ZERO: So tell us all about the "new" Violent Apathy. KENNY: This week's lineup is...Tommy's playing guitar now with Dick. We added Tommy because Dick's guitar playing is so terrible... (laughter) Z: What about those great leads he used to play? K: Oh, no, that wasn't lead, that was just feedback. Then of course Todd's still playing bass and we've got Andy on drums because Elliot left to form the Virelles and he was gonna go on a world tour with them but they broke up before they got to do that. But we were thinking about adding a couple more guitar players, maybe another drummer and another bass player...so then we could be like Meat Loaf. Z: How come you're all growing your hair long now? K: I just got tired of cutting it...and Andy, he's got straight edge on the back of his neck, where he cut it wrong, and Todd's growing his hair long so he can look like somebody from G.B.H. Z: What new songs have you put into the lineup? K: Tommy's been writing some new songs...he wrote the new one that's going to be on the next Master Tapes album, "Society Rules," and he wrote another song called "Advice," and another one we recently added called "Possession." And we wanted to do "Search & Destroy" because we played in Detroit this weekend and it was like a special for John from Negative Approach because Irry Pop rules in Detroit. And we got tired of doing "Paranoid" so much because everybody does it, so we decided it was time for a change. TIME marches on... Z: Do you expect to make a lot of money from the new Master Tapes compilation that you're gonna be included on? K: Yeah, hopefully from the Master Tapes we'll be able to do a triple live disco L.P. and then prepare for our coast-to-coast tour... Z: That's right...who were you gonna tour with? K: Well, Judas Priest called and asked us, let's see, who else asked us...Queen... Oh yeah, somebody in Detroit said we sounded like Styx, so, you know that's the way we sound now if anybody wants to know. Z: Why don't you say something about the new place in Kalamazoo you're looking into for shows.



KENNY



ANDY



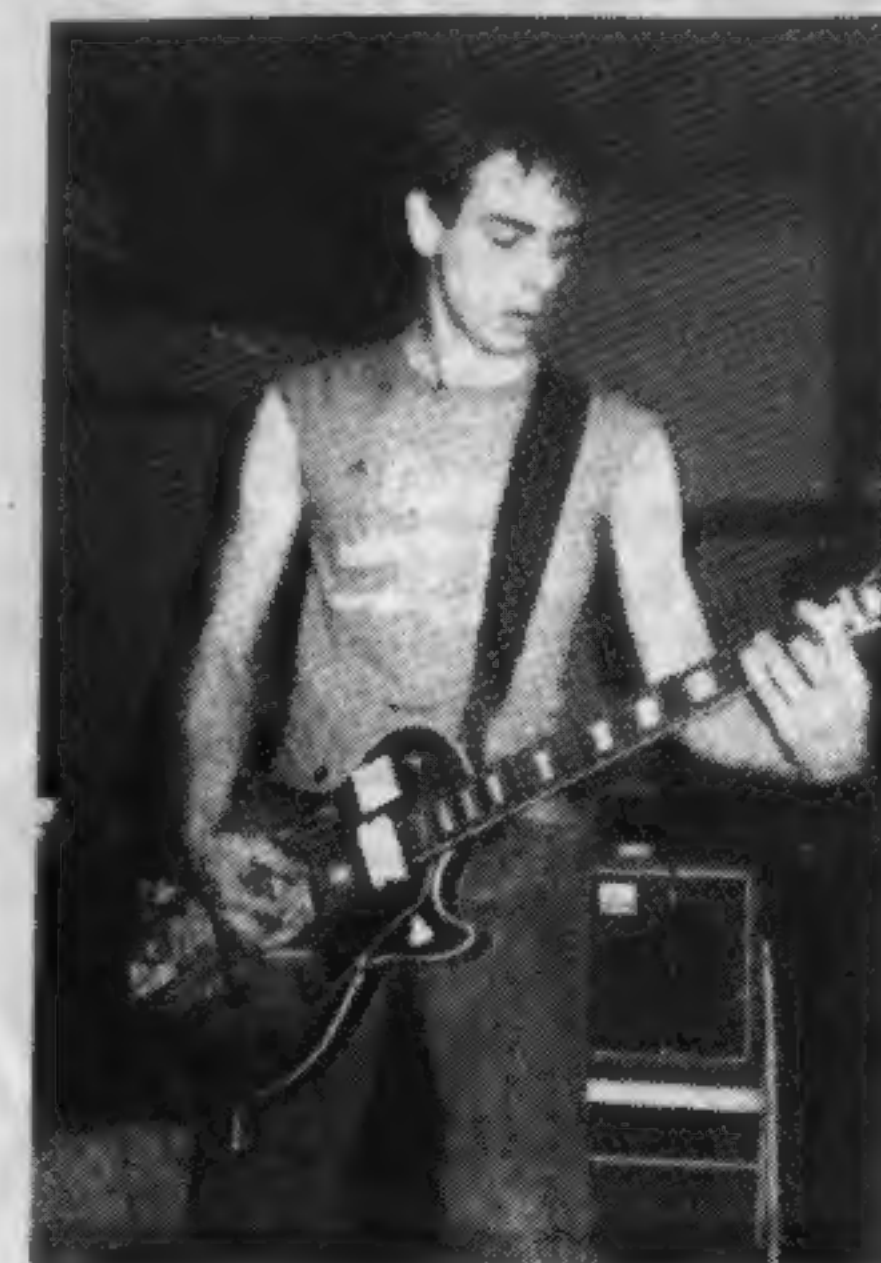
DICK

# APATHY

K: Well, it started when, I wanted to get another band going with Steve Fix and so we started practicing a few songs and it sounded pretty good, with me playing bass, him singing, Scott & Elliot from the Virelles on guitar and drums. And we wanted a place where we could practice all the time, and we couldn't do it at Dick's house because they like to have their privacy, and so we found this place out on Dowlass that used to be a bike shop and we're thinking about turning it into a little club or something if we can fix things up on the inside and convince the guy that it would be alright...He already told us that we could have parties there, it should be a primo spot. Pretty soon I think we'll be giving Bir Daddy's some competition. And, you know, maybe Wednesday and Thursday nites we'll have mixed male and female strippers. But hopefully this summer we'll be able to do a show almost every weekend. Z: What about the shows coming up in Kalamazoo in the near future... Do you think we're gonna get more interesting people? K: Well, I.D.C. wanted to play but we pretty much nixed them because we wanted to start out on the right foot here and not get the cops mad at us or the university. It'll be interesting to see what happens at the end of this semester when most of the college students will be leaving. If we can get people to come out to the shows, we should be able to get something good going by this fall. Z: Do you think there's any chance that any of the Detroit bands would come out to Kalamazoo? There was no mention of Detroit at the S.I.A. Students for Progressive Action meeting last week. K: The Allie! are putting out a 45 and I guess they aren't going to play until it comes out...Fate Unknown will play here any time we want them to come up. Negative Approach hasn't been interested in playing up here, I don't know what the reason is, I guess maybe if I offered them 3500 they'd come. (laugh it up) No, they just got back from Ohio, and got preached about corporate deathbunnies for a while.



TODD



TOMMY





There's some other bands that are starting up...we could probably get the Affiliated to come...they had a good musical sound but their singer wasn't that good. Z: What about Displaced? K: I haven't seen them. Z: They're kind of...they're more of an Oi sound... K: A lot of the new bands in Detroit are really Oi-type sounding bands, and I can see why they're doing it too, it's because there are so many bands that say "Oh we're hardcore and we're gonna kill people" coming out that they just don't want people like that showing up at the shows anymore, just to come and beat people up, because it's stupid. It was those kind of people showing up at the shows that kind of ruined it for everybody else, so now they're trying to get away from that. Hopefully we won't have that problem here. Z: How about the kids here- do you think that Kalamazoo's scene is going to get bigger? There's not that many kids in the highschools who are into it... K: Well, in western Michigan, Kalamazoo's the only place where anything happens. The kids from other towns and other cities like Grand Rapids, Holland, Hastings make special road trips to come here. Even though there aren't that many people here interested in it, we draw from nearby cities. Z: Why aren't more of the kids here now into it? K: I don't think they really understand it, and the music isn't that trendy and interesting to them. But, I think that when school lets out, they'll be looking for something to do. I think they'll be more interested in checking it out. And if we can get the right kind of people there, to show everybody that it's not just a bunch of violence and headbanging...that people come there to have fun, then I think there would be more people that would get into it. If we set the mood right to begin with, then it should catch on. But I've been saying that for the last year. Z: Have you ever had any problems with the Kalamazoo Police? K: Haven't had any problem with them at any show we've done here. In fact they've been more helpful than anything else. There was security at the last

M.D.U. show and all they did was come in and asked us if we needed any help and they told us they'd lock up for us. No problem. Z: What were the big shows here this winter? K: Well, the only real big show we had was the fake P.S.O.I. show...Four Shit Out of Luck, and we got Naked Raygun from Chicago to come up, and we had Pete Unknown play at that, and the Virelles, and us. And we had probably about 300 people show up for that. It got a lot of press coverage in the Western Herald. I don't know if we'll be able to get the same thing for the Circle Jerks next week or not. Z: So you want to keep the cop hater bands away from here...Bands that want to stir up, like the Crucifixes? K: Well, the thing about campus is that we have to get the shows approved- if they see a dance with the Crucifixes on it they wouldn't want to advertise it. They might think that we were some kind of anarchists organization to blow up the campus or something. Z: I thought that V.I. was a bunch of anarchists. K: Oh, the only time that we create a lot of anarchy is when we do it on our own, in the privacy of our own home. Then we really blow up things. But for right now we want to get bands here that everyone agrees should play here. That's why we try to get the approval of everyone at the S.P.A. meetings...and a band like M.D.C. I don't think they really have that much influence on anything at all. All they talk about is how much they hate cops. Sir deal. I don't hate cops. And I don't think that anyone else around here really hates cops that much, so why should we have 'em come and play? A system without any kind of authority isn't any system at all. Sure there's dicks for cops just like there's anarchists for punk rock...the only way I think any of this music is gonna get ahead is to work within the system itself, and try and change things from that point of view, not from throwing bricks through windows.

**VIOLENT APATHY INFO:**  
P.O. BOX 1102  
KALAMAZOO, MICH.  
49005

# NECROS



WOULD YOU  
BUY AN L.P.  
FROM THIS MAN?

**NECROS INFO:**  
P.O. Box 421  
Maumee, Ohio  
43537

**"CONQUEST FOR DEATH"**  
The first time I heard this 45 I was surprised at how different it sounded than the first 2 NECROS ep's...but I really like it. Andy Wendler's return to the band following Brian Pollock's departure last fall has left a large mark on the direction of the band; his "heavier" guitar style has transformed the basic sound of the NECROS' music, and the result is pretty good. This record confirmed the changes I've noticed in their sound at the live shows. In any case, "Conquest for Death" is a tight metallic tune, the flipside "Take 'em Up" which Andy wrote when he was in the infamous McDONALDS has lots of punch and is hilarious. Technically, this 45 has been masterfully rendered. It has a really clean sound, something the second ep, for all its genius lacked. NECROS L.P. out soon...I hear that their new version of "Bad Dream" is a killer.

